

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner indicated that claim 25 was allowable, and that claims 4 – 24 and 26 – 31 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants are grateful for these indications.

The Application as originally filed contained two claims numbered 26. Applicants have renumbered claims beginning with the second claim 26 through the end of the application.

Objection

Claim 2 was objected to as containing informality. Claim 2 has been cancelled and content of claim 2 has been substantially incorporated into amended claim 1. The informality was corrected during the incorporation of the subject matter of claim 2 into claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the informality in claim 2.

35 U.S.C. 112 Rejections

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Examiner stated that the two formulas containing C₃₄ are not enabling to one skilled in the art. It is respectfully submitted that one skilled in the art would be enabled via the disclosure of the two formulas. One skilled in the art would recognize the different combinations, including linear, branched, saturated and unsaturated, that are capable of being used to accomplish the result of the invention. That person would be enabled via general knowledge available to one skilled in the art of the possible combinations for C₃₄. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¹¹²~~102~~, second paragraph. The position set forth above with regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102, first paragraph is equally applicable to the present rejection. Claim 3 has also been amended so that the appropriate antecedent basis is provided for every limitation. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102, second paragraph.

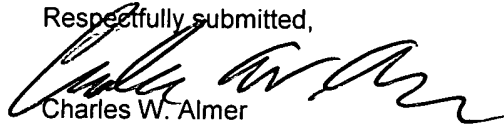


35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejection

Claims 1 was rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,265,776, issued to Gilleo. Claim 1 has been amended to include substantially the subject matter of claim 2 and claim 2 has been cancelled. As set forth above, there are no further objections or rejections to claim 2 and it is respectfully submitted that the amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance. The dependency of claims 3, 12, 16, 21 and 24 has been amended such that these claims are now dependent upon allowable claim 1. Claims 4 – 11, 13 – 15, 17 – 20, 22 and 23 are already either directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Gilleo

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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